



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, V CORPS
UNIT 29355
APO AE 09014

Policy Memorandum # 6

AETV-CG

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

DEC 15 2004

SUBJECT: Policy on Privately Owned Vehicle Accident Prevention

1. Privately Owned Vehicle (POV) accidents continue to be the single biggest cause of injuries and fatalities to our Soldiers and family members. My intent is to reverse this unacceptable trend. However, we must go a step further and institute an aggressive accident prevention program. The program will target all accidents to minimize the number of injuries and fatalities on and off duty. Leader involvement is vital to ensure that accident assessments are conducted, lessons learned are shared, Soldiers are educated on all safety issues. Leaders will ensure that safety awareness is emphasized Corps wide.

2. Commander involvement is paramount in preventing serious injuries and tragic, needless losses of lives that occur from accidents. Proactive, hands-on leadership at all levels is imperative. This is particularly important at the squad leader or first-line supervisor level. Utilize available safety professionals and resources. Soldiers must not be allowed to go on pass or leave without first receiving an honest "Under the Oak Tree" counseling to discuss their plans. Risk management must be a part of all unit activities. Share ideas and techniques that work. Safe behavior that protects our most valuable resource, the Soldiers, must be rewarded.

3. All Class A and selected Class B accidents will be reviewed by the first general officer in the chain of command. Corps separate accidents will be reviewed by the Chief of Staff, Deputy Commanding General, or the Commanding General. Units experiencing a Class A or B accident will generate and publish a Safety Alert. Commanders will brief Class A and B accidents at the Unit Status Report briefing.

4. The battalion commander will appoint an accident assessment team to review every POV accident resulting in a fatality or serious injury.

a. This assessment team will meet as soon as possible after the accident notification. Commanders should include the unit safety officer, safety noncommissioned officer, local medical personnel and chaplain to assist the team. This team will use the "3W" approach for information collection, analysis and recommendations. What happened, Why it happened, and What to do about it. The assessment will involve the implementation of corrective and preventive measures.

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b. The results of the assessment will be briefed to the first general officer in the chain-of-command of the unit experiencing the accident. The results of the assessment must be provided to the Corps Safety Office within 5 working days of convening accident assessment team. The format should be an Army Ground Accident Report (AGAR) to include three additional paragraphs: pre-accident phase, accident phase and post accident phase. Each paragraph will describe the circumstances involved in each phase.

c. V Corps Safety will forward the AGAR to the USAREUR Safety Office. Safety Alerts will be developed and disseminated throughout the corps to help prevent similar occurrences.

5. Our emphasis on safety must be unrelenting. Junior officers and noncommissioned officers are with their Soldiers every day. They should know where their Soldiers go, what they do, and then assert positive influence to prevent needless accidents.

6. Soldiers sometimes telegraph signals that translate later into accidents. Negative behavior such as traffic offenses, alcohol abuse, misconduct and poor performance are often indicators of potential accident victims. We must identify "at risk" Soldiers, counsel them and take proactive measures to modify their risky behavior. Commanders will use risk management to identify hazards associated with all operations. Assess the hazards, make decisions to control them, implement the controls, and supervise the execution.


7. Schedule unit activities on the installation to keep Soldiers off the road. Commanders should coordinate with base support battalions to keep gyms, recreation centers and other places, Soldiers use off-duty, open later. These same measures can also provide alternatives to alcohol use. Promote the use of the base support battalion and local transportation systems as alternatives to POV use. Commanders will ensure that Soldiers, at all levels, understand and utilize the Army designated driver program. Commanders will recognize Soldiers, who serve as designated drivers, with safety incentives and time off awards.

8. We must all be dedicated to end these tragic and needless fatalities. Direct, hands-on leadership will make a difference. Accident prevention is leaders' business at every level of our Corps. We owe it to our great Soldiers, civilians, and families.

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9. Victory Corps!



RICARDO S. SANCHEZ
Lieutenant General, USA
Commanding

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